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SUBJECT

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



- 1. On 27 July 1948 a meeting of representatives of the Communists and of the Syndicalists took place in Lisbon. Those present included Manuel GUEDES, a member of the Politburo of the Portuguese Communist Party: Joacuim Pires JORGE, another member of the Politburo of the PCP; Alfredo MONTEIRO, a former Syndicalist now believed to be a communist; Alberto DIAS, secretary-general of the Confederação Nacional de Trabalho and Jose FRANCISCO, who represents the Syndicalists in the civil construction trades in Lisbon.
- 2. GUEDES opened the meeting with a prevared speech in which he stated that the Communist Party had tried, without much success, to create a broad committee for a united front, composed of workers, whether they were communists, anarchists, republicans, legionaries, Catholics, or without any affiliations. The Party wanted such a committee capable of presenting to employers and the authorities the just claims of the working masses. The failure to form it is primarily due to the lack of an understanding with the Syndicalists. GUEDES then formally proposed a United Front (Frente Unica) to struggle against the Government of Portugal and against the foreign capitalist interests, especially American influence. He then suggested the creation of a strong organization within the Portuguese railways, so that in case of a capitalistic war against the Soviet Union all transportation in the country could be paralyzed. He pointed out that once the communists and syndicalists had united, all traffic in the harbors of Lisbon, Barreiro, and Setubal could easily be paralyzed. GUEDES chose those ports, he said, because it was there that the Americans would disembark in case of war with Russia. The British, he said, have a secret treaty with Spain and would land at Vigo and Ferrol. He stressed the fact that he was not mentioning these points as a trial balloon but as an absolute necessity, recognized as such at a recent congress in Paris attended by Alvaro CUNHAL (leader of the Portuguese Communist Party).
- 3. DIAS answered for the Syndicalists. He said that they were heart and soul in sympathy with the views expressed by GUEDES on the internal phase of the struggle. So far as the international aspect was concerned, they could not go against the International Syndicalist Tract and consequently they must await the coming Syndicalist congress in Amsterdam to define their position.
- 4. GUEDES then suggested to DIAS that the syndicalists hold a small national congress, prior to the Amsterdam congress, so that the Portuguese delegate to

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Amsterdam could be instructed on this matter. DIAS indicated he would talk it over with others not present at the meeting. On 28 July he told GUEDES that a committee was being formed to hold the congress and that the Party would be kept informed.

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